

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. An apparatus for computerized trading comprising:
 - a first plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
 - a second plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
 - an engine for providing services to either of said first or second plug-in,
 - whereby said first plug-in is implemented in said engine in order to execute a trade.
2. An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said second plug-in is implemented in said engine in order to execute said trade.
3. An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said first plug-in further comprises an algorithm plug-in that is implemented by the engine.
4. An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein said second plug-in further comprises a market plug-in that is implemented by the engine.
5. An apparatus as in claim 1, wherein the first and second plug-ins, and the engine, are constructed in Java.
6. An apparatus as in claim 1, further comprising a third plug-in whereby said third plug-in is substituted for said first plug-in in said engine.
7. An apparatus as in claim 2, further comprising a fourth plug-in whereby said fourth plug-in is substituted for said second plug-in in said engine.

8. An apparatus for computerized trading comprising:
 - a first, algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
 - a second, market plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
 - an engine for providing services to said first and second plug-ins, whereby said first and second plug-ins are implemented in said engine in order to execute a trade,
 - a third algorithm plug-in,
 - a fourth market plug-in,
 whereby either of said third or fourth plug-ins may be substituted for either of said first plug-in or second plug-in respectively, in said engine, in order to execute a trade.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said first and third algorithm plug-ins implement trading strategies selected from a group comprising:
 - Volume Weighted Average Price;
 - Ratio;
 - Gamma Hedge;
 - Aggressive Short Sell;
 - Iceberg;
 - Auto Trader;
 - CB Delta Hedge;
 - Stop Loss; and
 - Short Sell.

10. A method for computerized trading comprising:
 - providing a first plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
 - providing a second plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
 - providing an engine for providing services to either of said first or second plug-ins, and,

- executing a trade using said first plug-in implemented in said engine.

11. A method as in claim 10, wherein the step of executing a trade using said first plug-in implemented in said engine further comprises the step of using said second plug-in implemented in said engine in order to execute said trade.
12. A method as in claim 10, wherein the step of using said first plug-in implemented in said engine further comprises using an algorithm plug-in.
13. A method as in claim 11, wherein the step of using said second plug-in implemented in said engine further comprises using a market plug-in.
14. A method as in claim 10, wherein the steps of providing a first plug-in for implementing a trading strategy, providing a second plug-in for implementing a trading strategy, and providing an engine for providing services to either of said first or second plug-ins, further comprises providing Java versions of said first and second plug-ins and said engine.
15. A method as in claim 10, further comprising the step of providing a third plug-in.
16. A method as in claim 15, further comprising the step of substituting said third plug-in for said first plug-in in said engine.
17. A method as in claim 10, further comprising the step of providing a fourth plug-in.
18. A method as in claim 17, further comprising the step of substituting said fourth plug-in for said second plug-in.
19. A method for computerized trading comprising:
 - providing a first, algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
 - providing a second, market plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,

- providing an engine for providing services to either of said first or second plug-ins,
- implementing said first and second plug-ins in said engine,
- providing a third algorithm plug-in,
- providing a fourth market plug-in, and
- substituting either of said third or fourth plug-ins for either of said first plug-in or said second plug-in respectively, in said engine, in order to execute a trade.

20. A method as in claim 19, wherein the step of providing a first algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy, further comprise providing a first algorithm plug-in selected from a group comprising:

- Volume Weighted Average Price;
- Ratio;
- Gamma Hedge;
- Aggressive Short Sell;
- Iceberg;
- Auto Trader;
- CB Delta Hedge;
- Stop Loss; and
- Short Sell.

21. A method as in claim 19, wherein the step of providing a third algorithm plug-in for implementing a trading strategy, further comprise providing a third algorithm plug-in selected from a group comprising:

- Volume Weighted Average Price;
- Ratio;
- Gamma Hedge;
- Aggressive Short Sell;
- Iceberg;
- Auto Trader;
- CB Delta Hedge;

- Stop Loss; and
- Short Sell.

22. The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of initiating a recovery mechanism in the event of system failure.

23. An article for executing computerized trading comprising:

- a computer – readable signal bearing medium;
- means in the medium for providing a first plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
- means in the medium for providing a second plug-in for implementing a trading strategy,
- means in the medium for providing an engine for providing services to either of said first or second plug-in, whereby said first plug-in is implemented in said engine in order to execute a trade.

24. An article as in claim 23, further comprising means in the medium for providing a third plug-in for implementing a trading strategy.

25. An article as in claim 24, further comprising means in the medium for substituting said third plug-in for said first plug-in in said engine.

26. An article as in claim 23, further comprising means in the medium for providing a fourth plug-in for implementing a trading strategy.

27. An article as in claim 24, further comprising means in the medium for substituting said fourth plug-in for said second plug-in in said engine.